

Message Text

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52

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 RSR-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-14 USIA-12 IO-12 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01

OMB-01 STR-08 CEA-02 AGR-20 /214 W

----- 003982

R 231455 Z MAR 73

FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1480

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS DURBAN 0136

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PGOV, SF

SUBJECT: BUTHELEZI WARNS AGAINST PULL- OUT OF BRITISH INVESTMENT

1. IN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH DAILY NEWS MARCH 21 CHIEF GATSHA BUTHELEZI, CHIEF EXECUTIVE COUNCILLOR KWAZULU, CONDEMNED BRITISH LABOR MPS AND BRITISH ANTI- APARTHEID MOVEMENT FOR ADVOCATING " STERILE EXERCISE OF WITHDRAWING BRITISH CAPITAL FROM SOUTH AFRICA". SUCH TACTIC, HE SAID, WOULD NOT HELP HIS PEOPLE. POVERTY AMONG AMAZULU IS ALL CONSUMING AND EACH JOB, NO MATTER HOW MENIAL, CAN MEAN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH FOR A WORKER AND FAMILY.

2. DURING RECENT EUROPEAN TOUR BUTHELEZI SAID MANY SAW WITHDRAWAL OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT AS GOOD WAY PRECIPITATE REVOLUTION IN SA. HIS RESPONSE: " IT IS IRRESPONSIBLE TO ADVOCATE PLACING UNARMED

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PEOPLE AT MERCY OF A PEOPLE ARMED TO THE TEETH. IT WOULD
LEAD OUR PEOPLE TO CERTAIN SUICIDE."

3. WHILE ACCEPTING RIGHT OF BRITISH TO WITHDRAW AS MATTER OF
CONSCIENCE, BUTHELEZI STRESSED HIGHER PRIORITY OF BRITISH FIRMS
PAY RATE FOR JOB AND CREATE SOCIAL BENEFITS AS " MATTER OF
COURSE, NOT OF PRIVILEGE". BRITISH FIRMS SHOULD ALSO INSIST
ON ESTABLISHMENT OF TRADE UNIONS, IN THE PROUD BRITISH TRADITION,
FOR ALL BLACKS. IF FIRMS MUST BE ASKED WITHDRAW, THEN EXERCISE
MUST BE " MORE REASONABLE". " GIVE THEM TIME- TABLE TO IMPROVE
WAGES" AND IF NOT MET ONLY " THEN ASK THEM TO WITHDRAW FROM
S. AMZ

4. COMMENT: BUTHELEZI OBJECTION TO BRITISH LABOR PARTY AND ANTI-
APARTHEID MOVEMENT PRESSURES FOR CAPITAL WITHDRAWAL IN LINE WITH
HIS PUBLIC STAND IN FAVOR CONTINUED US BUSINESS INVESTMENTS,
PROVIDED INCREASED JOB OPPORTUNITIES AND WORKER BENEFITS FOR HIS
PEOPLE FORTHCOMING. SAME REASONING HAS PROMPTED BUTHELEZI TO
FAVOR CONTINUATION US SUGAR QUOTA.
HOLMES

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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